



EBBW VALE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

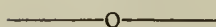
R E P O R T S
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH AND SENIOR
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1957



EBBW VALE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

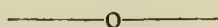
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OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH AND SENIOR
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
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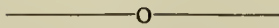
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EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Vice-Chairman - Councillor E. J. Parsons

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Councillor F. E. Bird.

Councillor B. Caron.

Councillor J. Davies.

Councillor R. Davies, B.A.

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Evans.

Councillor D. R. Evans

(Elected to County Council)

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Councillor T. J. Evans.

Councillor R. Evans.

Councillor S. Gale

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Councillor G. Watkins.

Councillor D. B. P. Williams.

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H. J. Williams, Esq., Solicitor.

Treasurer and Accountant:

W. Hicks, Esq., F.I.M.T.A., F.S.A.A.

Engineer and Surveyor:

J. M. Davies, Esq., B.Sc., A.M.I.Mun.E.

Architect:

J. L. Thomas, Esq., L.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.

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Vice-Chairman - Mr. Councillor G. Watkins

Medical Officer of Health:

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Senior Public Health Inspector:

A. Stokes, Esq., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

J. R. Pulsford, Esq., C.R.S.H.

G. Beynon, Es., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Inspector:

R. A. Evans, Esq.

Clerical Staff:

T. S. Bowen, Esq.

A. E. Foster, Esq.

Ebbw Vale Urban District Council

—o—

Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£316,624
Area of district	...	...	...	...	6,869 acres
Population (estimated) 1957	...	...	...	...	28,350
Population (estimated) 1956	...	...	...	...	28,350
Population (census) 1951	...	...	...	...	29,205
Number of live births	...	...	...	...	454
Number of still-births	...	...	...	...	23
Birth rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	16.01
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	48.22
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	345
Death rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	12.17
Number of infant deaths (under one year)	...	...	...	...	21
Infantile mortality per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	46.26
Infectious diseases notified	...	...	...	...	530
Infectious diseases - attack rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	18.69
Infectious diseases - death rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	0.03
Tuberculosis - attack rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	0.56
Tuberculosis - death rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	0.07

ANNUAL REPORT

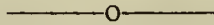
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR 1957



To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS
of the EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year ended 31st December, 1957. It is made in accordance with the memorandum of the Ministry of Health.

The area of the Ebbw Vale Urban District is 6,869 acres, with an estimated population of 28,350, which is the population given by the Registrar-General for calculating birth and death rates. A census taken in 1951 showed the population to be 29,205.

The number of births, still-births and deaths allocated to this area are those registered during the year 1957 as adjusted for inward and outward transfers. The returns as submitted by the Registrar-General will be used for calculating purposes, and it should be noted that these figures do not quite correspond with those compiled locally. This is particularly so regarding the registration of births, as records of inward transfers are not included in the local returns.

POPULATION

TABLE 1.

Year			Estimated Mid-year Population	Census		
1953	...	28,520		1921	...	35,383
1954	...	28,570				
1955	...	28,420		1931	...	31,695
1956	...	28,350				
1957	...	28,350		1951	...	29,205

BIRTHS

During 1957 the total number of births registered in this area was 451 — 225 males and 226 females; seven males and three females being illegitimate. Of this number, however, 103 babies (54 males and 49 females, including 1 male and 2 females illegitimate) were born to persons not normally resident within the area, thus leaving a total of 348 'local' births — 171 males and 177 females.

The figures returned by the Registrar-General were 233 males and 221 females (13 males and 3 females being illegitimate) thus making a total of 454, 106 more than the local returns. This difference is due primarily to the fact that records of inward transfers are not received by this Department.

In 1957 the general birth rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 16.01; the male birth rate was 8.22 and the female 7.79 per 1,000, whilst in 1956 these rates were 8.01 and 5.98 respectively.

The number of still-births was 23, and the still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 48.22. In 1956 this figure was 36.72.

There was one maternal death during the year. This was due to toxæmia of pregnancy coupled with Cæsarean section.

The sampling of maternal blood during pregnancy, with a view to determining the blood group and rhesus factor, should be the invariable practice.

In the following table, the number of births and the birth rate per thousand of the population for each of the past five years are compared with those figures given for the County of Monmouth and England and Wales. The local rates have been adjusted by use of the given comparability factor for the appropriate year.

TABLE 2.

Year	No. of Births	Birth Rates per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1953	456	16.78	16.79	15.50
1954	441	16.37	16.26	15.20
1955	400	14.91	15.29	15.00
1956	446	16.67	16.76	15.70
1957	454	16.81	17.07	16.10

The table given below shows the total number of 'domiciliary' and 'maternity home' births registered in the district during the five years 1953-1957.

TABLE 3.

	1957		1956		1955		1954		1953	
	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home	Born at: Rookery Maternity Home
Total births regist'd.	138	313	151	294	148	270	165	300	178	297
Outward transfers	6	97	4	97	3	82	4	99	2	88
Local	132	216	147	197	145	188	161	201	176	208

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of Deaths (under one year) ...	21	19	15	17	16
Number of Births ...	454	446	400	441	456
Number of Still-births ...	23	17	12	12	17
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births ...	46.26	42.60	37.50	38.55	35.08
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births ...	48.22	36.72	29.13	26.49	35.94

There were 21 deaths among infants under one year and the general total from all causes was 345, so 6.09 per cent of the deaths of the population occurred in children under one year.

The chief causes of death were congenital malformations and prematurity. With improved ante-natal and obstetric services one can expect some reduction in deaths from these conditions.

The incidence of viral infection in early pregnancy, e.g. rubella, it is known, results in foetal malformation and, or, death. Possibly such influences are more widespread than has yet been ascertained.

There were three deaths from accidents this year. Overlying, ~~infection~~, scalds and burns are perhaps the commonest causes. Many such deaths are, with normal care, preventable.

There is much to be learned regarding the causes of congenital malformations (i.e. disturbances of structure present at birth) and prematurity.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1957.

Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under one year.

TABLE 4.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total under 1 yr	Under 1 day					Total under one month	1 — 3 mths.				Total 1 Mth. and over
				Under 1 day	1 — 7 days	7 — 14 days	14 — 21 days	21 — 28 days		1 — 3 mths.	3 — 6 mths.	6 — 9 mths.	9 — 12 mths.	
1. Tuberculosis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Syphilitic disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Diphtheria ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Whooping cough ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Meningococcal infection ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Acute poliomyelitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Cancer (malignant disease) ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Heart disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Influenza ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Pneumonia (all forms) ...	3	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	2
12. Bronchitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Other respiratory diseases ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Congenital malformations ...	4	4	8	1	1	1	1	..	4	1	3	..	..	4
15. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
16. Violence ...	3	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	1
17. Atelectasis ...	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
18. Prematurity ...	2	2	4	3	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..
19. Erythroblastosis Foetalis or incompatibility of parents' blood group ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. All other causes ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	12	8	20	6	4	1	1	..	12	3	4	1	..	8

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1957 — WARD DISTRIBUTION

TABLE 5.

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cancer (malignant dis.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Pneumonia (all forms)	2	—	1	—	—	—	3
12. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Congenital malformations	—	5	—	1	—	2	8
15. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
16. Violence ...	1	—	—	1	—	1	3
17. Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
18. Prematurity ...	2	1	—	—	—	1	4
19. Erythroblastosis foetalis, or incompatibility of parents' blood group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	6	1	3	—	5	20

DEATHS.

The weekly returns of deaths as submitted by the local Registrar showed that the total number of deaths which occurred in the Ebbw Vale Urban Area during the year was 315, but of this number 28 were persons normally resident elsewhere — outward transferable deaths — thus the number of residents who died within the area was 287 — 170 males and 117 females. The inward transferable deaths totalled 57, thus the total number of deaths from all causes as related to this area was 344 — 204 males and 140 females. The figures returned by the Registrar-General were 204 males and 141 females, a total of 345.

The death rate per 1,000 of the population for the year 1957 was 12.17, The male death rate was 7.20 and the female 4.97.

In the following table, death rates per thousand of the population for the past five years are compared with those for the County of Monmouth and England and Wales. The local rates have not been adjusted by use of the given comparability factors for the appropriate years.

TABLE 6.

Year	No. of Deaths	Death rate per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1953	298	10.44	11.58	11.40
1954	320	11.20	11.61	11.30
1955	349	12.28	12.40	11.70
1956	340	11.99	11.96	11.70
1957	345	12.17	11.96	11.50

Causes of Death in the Ebbw Vale Urban District, 1957.

Returns of the Registrar-General.

TABLE 7.

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	2	—	2
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	2	—	2
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	1	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	—	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	10	19
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	1	3	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	21	40
18. Coronary disease, angina	43	21	64
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	3	8
20. Other heart disease	17	7	24
21. Other circulatory diseases	5	5	10
22. Influenza	11	1	12
23. Pneumonia	12	7	19
24. Bronchitis	21	7	28
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	2	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	5	4	9
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	32	46
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34. All other accidents	6	3	9
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	204	141	345

It may be noted that all 40 deaths listed under the headings 10—15 “Growths”, etc., occurred at ages of 45 years and over. With regard to heading 18, “Coronary disease, angina”, 53 of the 64 deaths registered occurred at 55 years and over. Coronary disease caused 12 deaths between the ages of 35 and 55 years.

It will be seen that in 1956 and 1957 deaths from coronary disease outnumbered those from “growths”.

Causes of Death in the Ebbw Vale Urban District, 1957

Local Returns (Including Inward Transferable Deaths)

TABLE 8.

Cause of Death	Age Groups													
	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 wks. to 1 year	1 — 5 years	5 — 15 years	15—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	Over 75 years
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Syphilitic disease	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
4. Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Meningococcal infection	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
7. Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, broncus	7	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	10	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	5
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Diabetes	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	21	39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	16	16
18. Coronary disease, angina	44	21	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	8	13	23	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	1
20. Other heart disease	17	6	23	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	..	4	14
21. Other circulatory disease	5	5	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	6
22. Influenza	11	1	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	5	3
23. Pneumonia	12	7	19	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	7
24. Bronchitis	21	7	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	8	9	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	..
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Congenital malformations	4	4	8	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	31	46	6	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	8	10	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
34. All other accidents	6	3	9	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	1
35. Suicide	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
36. Homicide and operations of war...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	204	140	344	12	8	1	2	2	2	11	30	68	103	105

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1957

Local Returns (Including Inward Transferable Deaths)

Ward Distribution

TABLE 9.

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
2. Tuberculosis, other forms ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
4. Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	...	4	1	2	1	1	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, broncus ...	...	1	2	1	1	2	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	2	...	...	1	...	...	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	1	3	2	4	5	19
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Diabetes ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	11	6	7	5	6	4	39
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	18	12	11	11	4	9	65
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	...	...	2	...	2	5	9
20. Other heart disease ...	4	1	4	4	4	6	23
21. Other circulatory disease ...	2	...	2	3	1	2	10
22. Influenza ...	...	...	6	1	2	3	12
23. Pneumonia ...	7	...	4	2	4	2	19
24. Bronchitis ...	6	4	6	4	3	5	28
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	2	1	...	...	...	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	...	1	2	1	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	...	2	4	...	...	1	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
31. Congenital malformations ...	...	5	...	1	...	2	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	6	6	14	8	8	46
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
34. All other accidents ...	2	...	1	4	...	2	9
35. Suicide ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	66	49	64	56	44	65	344

MONTHLY REGISTRATION OF DEATHS, 1957

TABLE 10.

Month	Total Deaths Registered		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Total 'Local' Deaths		Quarterly Totals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
January	17	18	—	1	2	—	19	17	36
February	17	3	2	—	2	5	17	8	25
March	20	9	—	2	8	2	28	9	37
April	18	13	4	—	4	2	18	15	33
May	12	13	1	1	5	1	16	13	29
June	13	7	1	1	1	1	13	7	20
July	9	8	2	1	1	1	8	8	16
August	15	12	2	1	—	3	13	14	27
September	22	9	3	2	3	—	22	7	29
October	14	9	1	1	1	4	14	12	26
November	12	12	—	1	4	2	16	13	29
December	17	16	—	1	3	2	20	17	37
	186	129	16	12	34	23	204	140	344

The figures for the total 'local' deaths are found by using the formula — 'local' deaths = Total — Outward + Inward.

CANCERS.

During the past five years period, 1953 to 1957, the number of deaths and death rates per 1,000 of the population from cancer show as follows :—

		No. of deaths	Death rate	% of total deaths
1953	...	58	2.03	19.46
1954	...	49	1.71	15.31
1955	...	71	2.50	20.34
1956	...	49	1.73	14.41
1957	...	40	1.41	11.49

CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA.

The unnumber of deaths, and death rates per 1,000 of the population from coronary diseases during each of the past five years were :—

		No. of deaths	Death rate	% of total deaths
1953	...	36	1.26	12.08
1954	...	39	1.36	12.19
1955	...	61	2.15	17.48
1956	...	67	2.36	19.77
1957	...	64	2.26	18.55

It is believed that the incidence of coronary diseases of the heart is increasing. How much of this apparent increase is a real one, and how much is due to fashion in diagnosis, only a post mortem, carried out in every case by a competent pathologist would determine.

As has been previously noted, diseases of the heart and blood vessels account by far for the largest number of deaths, followed by those due to cancers, and then by those due to diseases of the respiratory system.

The years when many deaths, usually from infectious diseases, occurred in young children and infants, appear to have gone, so much so that, like hospital tuberculosic beds, other uses are being found in some hospitals for beds previously occupied by sick children.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

Three deaths occurred from road accidents during the year, making a total of eleven over the past five years.

Road accidents often follow speeding, carelessness, and lack of consideration. The erection of advertising hoardings at or near a bend or junction would appear to smack of stupidity. The permitting Authority might, with advantage, reconsider their policy.

To allow very young children to play on verges and pavements, particularly those bounding busy roads, suggests parental negligence, or ignorance of the frightful risks run by such children. The same consideration applies to such unaccompanied children when given tricycles or bicycles.

COUNTY STATISTICS.

The figures given below apply to the County of Monmouth, and for purposes of comparison the local rates are also shown.

		County of Monmouth	Ebbw Vale
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	17.07	16.01
Still-birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	0.51	0.81
Death rate per 1,000 of the population ...	...	11.96	12.17
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births	...	30.98	46.26
Neo-natal death rate per 1,000 live births	...	21.97	28.63
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births			
(live and still)	...	0.70	2.10

Comparability Factors — Ebbw Vale

Births
1.05

Deaths
1.23

Live Births

				M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	233	221
Legitimate	...	...	...	220	218
Illegitimate	...	...	...	13	3

Still Births

				M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	12	11
Legitimate	...	...	...	12	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

				M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	12	9
Legitimate	...	...	...	11	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

				M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	7	6
Legitimate	...	...	...	6	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 530 cases of infectious diseases were notified, giving an attack rate per thousand of the population of 18.69.

TABLE 11.

Year	No. of Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000
1953	539	18.90
1954	200	7.00
1955	948	33.36
1956	271	9.59
1957	530	18.69

It will be seen that the highest attack rate during the past five years was in 1955. This was chiefly due to the number of measles and whooping cough cases notified — 744 and 80 respectively.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—MORTALITY.

There was only one death, apart from tuberculosis, during the year and that was from meningococcal infection. This gave an annual death rate per thousand of the population of 0.03.

In the tabular statement below are shown the cases notified and the case rate per thousand for each of the notifiable diseases.

TABLE 12.

Disease	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000
Tuberculosis, respiratory	12	0.42
Tuberculosis, other ...	4	0.14
Diphtheria ...	0	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	49	1.72
Pneumonia ...	48	1.69
Smallpox ...	0	0.00
Erysipelas ...	8	0.28
Measles ...	359	12.66
Whooping Cough ...	15	0.53
Enteric (Typhoid or paratyphoid Fever) ...	0	0.00
Dysentery ...	3	0.11
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	4	0.14
Meningococcal Infection	2	0.07
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	0.04
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0.00
Food Poisoning ...	25	0.88

Measles (359), scarlet fever (49) and pneumonia (48) accounted for 456 of the 530 notifications received.

The incidence of whooping cough, a most distressing complaint, fluctuates from year to year. It causes more damage to the respiratory system than is perhaps appreciated by most. Whooping cough can, however, be ameliorated or prevented by immunisation with the appropriate vaccine, which is now offered at infant welfare clinics and by general practitioners.

All scarlet fever cases were nursed at home with apparently good results. It is noteworthy that there have been no deaths from this disease during the past five years.

Measles, the most infectious of all droplet infections, shows more violent fluctuations of incidence than any other disease, except perhaps influenza.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was 250, of which number 242 were under five years of age. This protection may be obtained free of cost at Welfare centres, schools, surgeries of the medical practitioners and at this office.

As with smallpox vaccination, so with diphtheria immunisation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to persuade the public of the continuing necessity of these procedures. A few deaths from diphtheria still occur throughout the country, as will be seen from Table 14, so it is continually emphasised to parents that the remarkable decline in the incidence and mortality of this disease can only be maintained if their children are given the protection of immunisation.

TABLE 13

Immunisations carried out during the past five years :—

YEAR	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Children under 5 years ...	242	266	157	201	186
5—14 years	6	2	2	438	7
Boosters	2	3	3	980	25

**Total number of Children who had completed a Full Course of Immunisation at any time up to
31st December, 1957, i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1943.**

TABLE 14.

Age at 31.12.57 i.e. Born in year :	Under										Total under 15 yrs.
	1 1957	2 1956	3 1955	4 1954	5 1953	6 1952	7 1951	8 1950	9 1949	10 1948	
Last complete course of injections (whether pri- mary or booster											
	28	188	197	200	191	175	46	34	54	312	2,487
	—	—	—	—	—	23	136	163	204	106	1,600
A. 1953—1957											
B.—1952 or earlier											
	28	188	197	200	191	198	182	197	258	418	4,087
TOTALS	804					1,253					2,030
	0 — 4 yrs.					5 — 9 yrs.					10 — 14 yrs.

The following table is shown to illustrate more completely the downward trend of cases notified, and deaths from diphtheria throughout England and Wales. The figures given are for deaths and notifications (corrected) since 1946; those shown in parenthesis are for Wales alone.

TABLE 15.

ENGLAND AND WALES 1946 - 1957				
YEAR	DEATHS		CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS	
1946	472	(41)	11,986	(1,028)
1947	244	(19)	5,609	(441)
1948	156	(7)	3,575	(190)
1949	84	(1)	1,890	(102)
1950	49	(Nil)	962	(62)
1951	33	(1)	664	(53)
1952	32	(3)	376	(39)
1953	23	(Nil)	266	(17)
1954	9	(Nil)	173	(7)
1955	13	(Nil)	155	(1)
1956	8	(Nil)	51	(2)
1957				

SMALLPOX

No cases notified during the year.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Vaccination against smallpox is not compulsory, but this treatment is given free of cost at infant welfare centres, surgeries of the medical practitioners, and at this office.

Whilst considering the question of vaccinating children under 2 years of age, it must be remembered (i) that some countries require vaccination of immigrants before admission, and (ii) that members of H.M. Forces are liable to be posted to areas where smallpox is endemic. In this connection it is known that the rare complications of vaccination, e.g. post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis, are much more likely to occur in those persons vaccinated for the first time after the age of two years.

I give below, in specified age groups, the number of persons primarily vaccinated or re-vaccinated during the past twelve months. No cases of generalised vaccinia or post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis occurred during the year, and there were no deaths from other complications of vaccination.

TABLE 16.

Smallpox Vaccinations carried out over the past five years.

YEAR	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Under 1 year	113	114	57	55	75
1—4 years	14	4	6	7	14
5—14 years	2	3	1	2	0
15 years and over	12	18	7	9	11
Re-vaccinations	16	18	19	16	22
	157	157	90	89	122

POLIOMYELITIS.

Four cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year — three paralytic and one non-paralytic. All recovered although some needed prolonged physiotherapy for partial muscular paralysis in their lower limbs.

It is hoped that the manufacture of a safe, efficient vaccine against this dreaded disease will increase to meet the demand. The number of such injections performed in this area during the year 1957 was 1,897.

Notification of Poliomyelitis during the past five years.

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
4	0	5	1	1

DYSENTERY.

			1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Cases notified	...	...	3	1	13	1	0

In these days of mass production, much manipulation, the long distances involved in the transport of foodstuffs, and the often poor hygienic standards of shop distributors and home consumers, the dysenteries present another ever present threat to the public health. With food poisoning and poliomyelitis they are among the most prominent, if not the most prevalent, diseases confronting the public health service today.

TYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955. s.25

Food Poisoning.

During the year twenty-five cases of food poisoning were notified. No case was removed to hospital, and all made a complete recovery.

Twenty-three of the cases occurred in one outbreak, and the cause was found to be contaminated steak and kidney. The infecting organism was *Clostridium welchii*. A member of the staff employed in preparing and serving the food was found to be infected.

A reduction in the incidence of the dysenteries, food poisoning, poliomyelitis, infective hepatitis, etc., can only be attained by the co-operation of everyone, based upon education in matters of personal hygiene, and education which should begin in the home and in school, places where facilities such as baths, hot water, towelling, etc., should be present.

The cases of food poisoning notified to me during each of the past five years are shown below.

			1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Cases notified	...	...	25	0	6	2	4

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year sixteen cases of tuberculosis were notified — twelve respiratory and four, other forms of tuberculosis. Notifications in respect of three inward transfers were also received. There were two deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

The number of cases notified undoubtedly follows the intensified search for the infected. This fact is supported by the large number of persons attending the Chest Clinic (see t. 19).

Each case notified is visited by the Medical Officer of Health, Health Visitor and Public Health Inspector, and a report upon the environmental conditions is sent to the County Medical Officer and the Area Chest Physician. Welfare facilities provided by the Monmouthshire County Council and National Assistance Board are brought to the attention of the patients. This Authority, in addition, offers rehousing where necessary. Arrangements are made for the contacts to be seen at the Chest Clinic for skin tests and x-rays.

Skin testing for tuberculosis was carried out in the 'under fives' at the Child Welfare Clinics and at this office. Children of school age were offered the same facility. In addition, the Local Education Authority arranged for the x-raying of all skin test positives, and all school 'leavers'.

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to certain age groups in 1957.

TABLE 17.

			1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
No. of cases notified	...	...	16	28	40	27	18
Attack rate per 1,000, Ebbw Vale	...	...	0.56	0.99	1.41	0.95	0.63
Number of deaths	...	...	2	2	6	4	7
Death rate per 1,000, Ebbw Vale	...	...	0.07	0.07	0.21	0.14	0.24

TUBERCULOSIS

1. Summary of Notifications received during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1957.

TABLE 18.

FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS												
Primary notifications of new cases of T.b.												
Age periods :		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	Total
Resp.	Males :	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	3	2	9
	Females :	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	3
Non-resp.	Males :	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
	Females :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2

2 New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Source of information		Number of Cases - Age groups										
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	Total
Death returns from local Registrar	Resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Non-resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Death returns from Registrar - General (Transfer'le deaths)	Resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Non-resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Posthumous notifications	Resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Non-resp. M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

3. Deaths from Tuberculosis - Age groups.

Age groups :		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75	Total
Resp.	Males :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
	Females :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-resp.	Males :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Females :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Patients from this area attend the Chest Clinics at Pentwyn House, Ebbw Vale Hospital, and at Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith. The figures shown in the tables given below relate only to those seen at the Ebbw Vale Clinic.

TABLE 19.

Number of chest cases examined at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including home visits), i.e. new cases for the year ending 31st December, 1957 ...	222
Number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including home visits) i.e. old cases seen during the year ending 31st December, 1957 ...	1,034
Total number of cases ...	1,256

TABLE 20.

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of persons examined for the first time at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) ...	222	401	372	353	300
Total number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) ...	1,256	1,312	973	893	857

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. s.172.

This Section deals with the removal to hospital, by means of application to a court of summary jurisdiction by the Local Authority, of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

No such action was taken during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS.

Action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculosic employees in the milk trade — Nil.

ADMISSIONS TO SANATORIA, 1957.

TABLE 21.

SANATORIUM		Cases Admitted	Transfers from other Sanatoria	Cases Discharged
Cefn Mably ...	...	—	2	2
Chepstow ...	...	1	2	1
Energlyn ...	...	2	—	2
Gelligaer ...	...	3	—	3
Glan Ely ...	...	4	1	8
Sully ...	...	—	3	4
Talgarth ...	...	6	2	6

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Cases admitted to Isolation Hospitals.

Of the total number (530) of infectious diseases notified during the year — tuberculosis cases excepted — only seven were admitted to isolation hospitals. They were: acute poliomyelitis—4; measles (bronco-pneumonia)—1; meningococcal infection—2.

The hospitals concerned were — Gelligaer, Allt-yr-yn, Newport, and City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES **Analysis of Total Cases Notified**

TABLE 22.

DISEASE	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 — 2 years	2 — 3 years	3 — 4 years	4 — 5 years	5 — 10 years	10 — 15 years	15 — 20 years	20 — 25 years	25 — 35 years	35 — 45 years	45 — 65 years	Over 65 years	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet fever ...	27	22	49	...	1	2	4	3	30	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	35	13	48	...	...	1	3	...	5	2	2	...	1	1	19	14	...
Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	3	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	2	...	6	...	11
Tuberculosis, other forms	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	3
Measles ...	191	168	359	8	29	27	54	66	167	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	9	6	15	2	2	1	1	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	4	4	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	5	...
Acute poliomyelitis	2	2	4	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Meningococcal infection	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal pyrexia ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Food poisoning ...	11	14	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	7	5	4	...	...
	293	237	530	10	32	31	63	73	211	17	14	7	12	8	33	19	21

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — WARD DISTRIBUTION

TABLE 23.

Disease	North Ward	B'minton Ward	Central Ward	N. Cent. Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
Scarlet fever	6	9	16	12	5	1	49
Pneumonia	7	8	14	6	3	10	48
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	3	3	3	3	—	—	12
Tuberculosis, other forms ...	2	—	1	—	—	1	4
Measles	86	34	74	51	47	67	359
Whooping Cough	—	2	7	1	3	2	15
Erysipelas	—	1	2	3	1	1	8
Acute poliomyelitis	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
Meningococcal infection ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Puerperal pyrexia	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
Food poisoning	3	3	5	13	1	—	25
	107	63	127	90	61	82	530

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(County Council Service)

There are three weekly child welfare clinics in the district, one at Cwm, one at Ebbw Vale, and one at Beaufort. The ante-natal clinics, where routine blood grouping and Rhesus factor testing are carried out, are held weekly at Ebbw Vale and fortnightly at Cwm.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

(County Council Service)

Five midwives, in the employ of the Monmouthshire County Council, practice in the district. Home nursing facilities are available to all necessitous cases, and employed in this respect are six whole-time district nurses, as are home-helpers.

HOSPITALS

(Regional Hospital Board Service)

There are two hospitals in the district — the Ebbw Vale Hospital where both medical and surgical cases are treated, and the Rookery Maternity Hospital. All cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to hospitals outside the area, there being no local facilities. When some difficulty is experienced in obtaining a bed for a case, application can be made through the Bureau at Panteg.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

(County Council Service)

The ambulance services are controlled by the Monmouthshire County Council with the control centre at Caerleon. The local depot is situated at Tredegar.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(County Council Service)

The establishment of the Home Help as at 31st December, 1957, was 1 full-time, 53 part-time home helps. During the year 203 cases received assistance — maternity 5, chronic sick 123, tuberculosis 3, and miscellaneous 72. Increasing use was made of this Service, the growth of which is nation wide; the need for this service is likely to expand since there will be more old people needing help.

MEDICAL APPLIANCES SCHEME

(County Council Service)

The Monmouthshire County Council are responsible for the provision of appliances, e.g. air beds, air rings, etc., issued under this scheme, but the depots are staffed on a voluntary basis by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the British Red Cross Association.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

Specimens, including milk, water and ice-cream samples, are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at County Hall, Newport, for bacteriological and pathological examination.

The services of the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, are also available, from whence is obtained small-pox vaccine.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, s.47

No action was taken by the Council under this Section of the Act which provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons who —

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic diseases, or, being aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

SUB-STANDARD DWELLINGS

As in all industrial areas of long standing the time is now ripe for dealing with sub-standard dwellings. The solution of this problem has hitherto had to await that connected with the ordinary housing list. It must be agreed that the latter problem has at least been partially solved (1142 houses have been built since the war, an admirable record), and it is fitting therefore that increasing attention be given to the getting rid of those old houses which are now, by any recent standard, unfit for human habitation.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Public cleansing during the year was maintained at its usual standard. In some areas collection was daily, in others three times weekly. Equipment in use being 2 moving floor Karriers, 4 Bantam side-load Karriers, and 1 Dennis Mechanical gully cleanser.

Some difficulty was experienced in finding future suitable sites for refuse disposal. Meticulously controlled tipping is essential to avoid nuisance; this cannot be over-emphasized.

INDUSTRIES

Particulars of the basic industries of the district.

				Persons employed
Steam coal collieries	...	...	...	1,885
Coke, coal and bye-products		...	...	363
Steel and tinplate works	...	...	...	8,900
Brick making	...	...	...	107
Staff	...	...	...	778
Total number of persons employed in the district				15,614
Total number of persons unemployed				176

POLLUTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

Such pollution, by smoke, grit, chemicals, originates mainly from (i) domestic chimneys, (ii) steelworks, including Bessemer plant, Basic slag plant, etc., (iii) railway engines (coal-fired). In this year, five stations for measuring such pollution of the atmosphere were set up at —

- i. Upper Carno Reservoir, Llangynidr Moors.
- ii. Co-operative Stores, Bethcar Street, Ebbw Vale.
- iii. Apprentice School, Victoria.
- iv. Pit-head baths, Waunlwyd Colliery.
- v. Co-operative Stores, Canning Street, Cwm.

whilst an instrument for measurement of sulphur dioxide was sited at Garden City, Ebbw Vale.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1957.

Estimated population	...	...	...	28,350
Cases of Infectious Diseases notified	...	...	...	530
New cases of tuberculosis	...	...	...	16
Death rate, Tuberculosis, per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	0.07

Number of houses erected during the year :

(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	79
(ii) By other persons or bodies	...	...	20

During 1957, 79 houses and flats were completed, which was a much lower number than completed in the preceding two years. The roads and sewers had however been almost completed for a further 394 houses, and 200 of these were under contract. The remaining 194 would be under contract early in 1958. Contracts had also been commenced for 62 two bedroom flats, most of which would be completed in 1958.

The number of housing applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of 1957 was 979. There were, however, only 679 applicants to which consideration would be given.

184 fresh applications were received during the year and these are included in the above figures.

The Slum Clearance Programme proceeded satisfactorily, and two Clearance Orders and one Compulsory Purchase Order, covering 52 houses were confirmed during the year. Individual Demolition and Closing Orders were made on 21 properties. For the next 394 houses it is the Local Authority's policy to allocate 50 % to slum clearance and 50 % to general needs, and a Clearance Area for 76 houses will be dealt with during 1958.

More accommodation should be provided for aged people and this, it is hoped will be commenced in the near future.

HOUSING, 1956.

	Type of House			Number
1. Number of separate dwellings owned by Local Authority on 31st Dec., 1957	Traditional	...	...	1,075
	Cornish unit	...	...	178
	Gregory Flats	...	...	40
	Unity	...	...	30
	Flats	...	...	18
	B.I.S.F.	...	...	154
	No Fines	...	...	375
				<u>1,870</u>

2. Total number of new separate dwellings completed during the year	...	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
(a) By Local Authority	...	79	219	174	47	56
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	20	20	12	7	12
		<u>99</u>	<u>239</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>68</u>

	Type of House			Number
3. Number of Local Authority dwellings in course of erection 31st Dec., 1957	Traditional	...	...	10
	No Fines	...	...	200
	Gregory	...	...	28
	Cornish Unit	...	...	24
				<u>266</u>

1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

A. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	427
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	508
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included in sub head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	37
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	84
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...		73
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	123

B. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in respect of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	35
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2.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936, and S.9 of the Housing Act, 1957.

1.		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	Nil
2.		Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	...	Nil
	(i)	By the owners	...	...	...	Nil
	(ii)	By the Local Authority in default of owners	...			Nil

B. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 or under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.

1. Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	17
2. Number of houses Demolished in pursuance of the Demolition Orders	17

C. Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of Clearance Orders confirmed during 1957	...	...	2
2. Number of houses included in Clearance Orders	...	...	31
3. Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders confirmed during 1957	...	...	1
4. Number of houses included in compulsory Purchase Order	...	...	21

D. Proceedings under Section 10 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953 or under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

1. Number of Closing Orders made in respect of separate tenements or underground rooms	...	...	...	...	1
2. Number of premises closed under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act	...	...	...	...	3
3. Number of Closing Orders determined where premises have been made fit	...	...	...	...	Nil

E. Proceedings under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	12
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :				
(i) By owners				
(a) Before legal proceedings	...	...	...	5
(b) After legal proceedings	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	7

F. Proceedings under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwelling houses where notices served	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----

G. Proceedings under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	123
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :				
(i) By owners				
(a) Before legal proceedings	...	...	...	87
(b) After legal proceedings	...	...	...	1
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	1

H. Proceedings under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of notices served	Nil
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

I. Proceedings under Section 268 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of notices served in respect of moveable dwellings	4
--	-----	-----	-----	---

J. Proceedings under the Rent Act, 1957.

1. Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	7
2. Number of undertakings received	...	...	...	2
3. Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	5

3.—HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV.

Overcrowding.

1. (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	127
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	206
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	812
2. Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	15
3. (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	59
(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	136
4. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	Nil
5. Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer may find it desirable to report	...	...	...	Nil

Summary of Inspections carried out during the Year, under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Sanitary accommodation, cinemas etc.	...	...	...	14
Drainage works	...	...	...	313
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	136
Piggeries etc.	...	...	...	32
Waterworks	...	...	...	12
Nuisances	...	...	...	527
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	24
Vermin	...	...	...	18
Offensive trades	...	...	...	12
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	53
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	185
Rats and Mice Infestation	...	...	...	1,299

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

This Local Authority has taken full advantage of the provisions for grants and loans under the above Act, for the improvement and repair of houses in the area.

Details are shown below :—

Number of applications for grants for the improvement of houses in the area	103
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

Number of applications approved for loans for repair and improvement of houses in the area	47
--	-----	-----	-----	----

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Number of dwelling houses treated :

(a) Council Properties	5
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) Private properties	2
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Methods employed in carrying out this work entail the use of D.D.T. smoke. Satisfactory results were obtained in all cases.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The treatment of the sewers and of surface infestations to control rats and mice was continued during the year.

The sewer system was successfully treated twice during the year and a total of 704 manholes were baited, using zinc phosphide and sausage rusk on the first occasion, and arsenic and bread mash on the second treatment.

Surface infestations were treated with Warfarin and in every case the results were satisfactory. The total properties surveyed and treated can be seen on the following table.

Details of the properties treated are given in the following table. It will be noted that this report is for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1958.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	(i) Local Authority	(ii) Dwelling houses(inc. Council Houses)	(iii) All other (including Business premises)	(iv) Total of cols.(i) (ii) and (iii)	(v) Agriculture
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's dist.	8	7782	336	8126	6
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	—	353	26	379	—
(b) Survey under the Act ...	8	604	126	730	4
(c) Otherwise ...	—	163	27	190	—
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major ...	2	16	20	38	—
Minor ...	3	274	4	281	—
(b) Mice Major ...	—	63	—	63	—
Minor ...	2	—	2	4	—
4. Number of infested properties (Sect. 4) treated by the L.A. ...	5	353	26	384	—
5. Number of notices served under s.4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e. proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
6. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under s.4 of the Act. ...	—	—	—	—	—
7. Legal proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ...	—	—	—	—	—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1954

and

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

One slaughterhouse is registered under the above Act, and details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the area are as follows :

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	57	12	21	512	90	—
Number inspected ...	57	12	21	512	90	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	13	1	—	4	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	22.8%	8.3%	—	.78%	2.2%	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	2	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	5.2%	16.6%	—	—	1.1%	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

The bulk of the meat consumed in this area is killed in an adjoining area and the Local Authority contributes a proportion of the salary of the full-time meat inspector appointed in that area.

This ensures that all meat consumed in the area is inspected at the time of slaughter by a qualified inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

and

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

The food premises in the area were visited regularly, as also were all canteens supplying cooked meals to workmen.

A high standard of cleanliness was maintained in the canteens and improvements were carried out where necessary in food shops in order to comply with the above regulations.

Sampling under this Act is carried out by the Officers of the County Council.

Details of inspections carried out are given below.

Premises			Number	No. of Visits	
Greengrocers	...	...	18	...	94
Butchers	...	...	32	...	121
Restaurants, Cafes	...	...	10	...	138
Grocers	...	...	68	...	427
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	12	...	144
Bakehouses	...	...	4	...	48
Cooked Meat Shops	...	...	1	...	9
Fresh Fish Shops	...	...	1	...	12
Canteens	...	...	7	...	18

The number of premises registered under S.16 (1b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 are shown below.

No. of premises	Inspections
48	306

Premises registered under S.1 (a) are shown under the Ice Cream (Heat-Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Below is a summary of the foodstuffs condemned during the year.

Food Condemned				Amount
Meat	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Meat, tins	...	...	...	280
Chicken, tins	...	...	...	1
Ham, Cooked	...	...	...	206 lbs.
Fish, tins	...	...	...	33
Sausages	...	...	...	111 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	117 lbs.
Vegetables, tins	...	...	...	77
Meat and vegetables, tins	...	...	...	4
Soup, tins	...	...	...	15
Tomatoes, tins	...	...	...	207
Fruit, tins	...	...	...	481
Milk, tins	...	...	...	28
Cheese	...	...	...	94 lbs.
Cream, tins	...	...	...	9
Margarine	...	...	...	37 lbs.
Tea	...	...	...	2½ lbs.

All condemned foods not returned through the wholesalers for salvage, are disposed of at the Local Authority's refuse tip.

LICENSED PREMISES.

Regular inspections of all licensed premises in the area were carried out during the year and the standard of cleanliness was very good.

Informal notices were served in 10 cases and in every case the work was carried out to our satisfaction.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 and ICE-CREAM (HEAT-TREATMENT &c.) REGULATIONS, 1947.

The standard of cleanliness in the manufacture and storage of ice-cream was maintained during the year and the following table shows the premises registered and the results of the samples taken.

Premises registered		Number	No. of Visits
Sale, manufacture and storage	...	9	108
Sale only	...	87	174

Grade	No. of Samples
1	28
2	6
3	2
4	2

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949-1954

MILK (Special Designation) REGULATIONS, 1949-1954

MILK (Special Designation) SPECIFIED AREA ORDER, 1954

As this area is a designated area under the milk (Special Designation) Specified Area Order of 1954, only bottled, pasteurised or heat treated milk is retailed in the area.

57 samples of milk were taken during the year for bacteriological examination and of these 2 were found to be unsatisfactory.

The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 is shown below.

No. dairies	No. of inspections
24	106

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1957.

Atmospheric pollution is fairly heavy in the area and the main causes of pollution are :—

1. The steel and tinsplate works, together with the associated processes such as coke ovens and bye-product plants.
2. Domestic smoke.

In order to measure the extent of pollution 5 deposit gauges and one lead peroxide apparatus have been installed by the Local Authority and 3 gauges by the steel industry.

It is hoped, therefore, that the results will assist the Local Authority in minimising the problem.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Regular inspections were carried out of all factories in the area and in most cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Details of the work carried out are shown in the following tables:—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	M/c Line No.	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted	M/c Line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	4	42	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which s.7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	42	126	—	—	2
(iii) Other premises in which s.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	46	168	—	Nil	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c Line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred : By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	—	—	—	—	—	60

PART VIII of the ACT OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nil

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for the area is derived from two reservoirs, Upper and Lower Carno, on the Llangynidr Moors, and these are supplemented by two electrical pumping stations on Claisfer Stream in an adjoining valley.

Both reservoirs are equipped with a set of roughing filters together with a number of open filter beds, and after passing through these the water is chlorinated.

The use of lead piping on supplies for human consumption is now forbidden, so that the risk of contamination by lead is reduced to a minimum. The water is conveyed to the town by means of a cast iron gravitated mains. The supply is, on the whole, adequate and satisfactory, but shortages do occur during periods of prolonged drought. To prevent any shortage, and to cope with raising consumption an additional source is being sought.

The number of properties supplied by the public mains was 7,389, so that approximately 28,340 of the population are thus served. Every effort is being made to connect all properties where it is possible.

Routine tests of water are carried out by the Waterworks personnel, and staff of the Surveyor's Department. These tests include daily chlorine tests, and monthly pH and silica tests.

Details of all samples taken — from the reservoirs, swimming pool, and springs — for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, are given on the next page. The results of samples taken for chemical examination are also shown. In all, a total of 66 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological analysis and 11 for chemical.

WATER SAMPLES

	RESERVOIRS		SPRINGS, &c.		SWIMMING BATHS		TOTAL
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Bacteriological examination of :							
(i) Raw water	3	14	—	2	—	1	20
(ii) Treated water	40	—	—	—	2	4	46
	43	14	—	2	2	5	66
Chemical examination of :							
(i) Raw water	4	—	—	—	1	—	5
(ii) Treated water	4	—	—	—	1	1	6
	8	—	—	—	2	1	11

Reservoirs—Capacity

		Upper Carno	Lower Carno
Maximum capacity, gallons	...	68,000,000	176,000,000
Average storage capacity held	...	59,000,000	160,000,000
Claisfer - Maximum output of pumping station :- 1,500,000 galls. per day			

WATER CONSUMPTION

1st April to 31st March — 1953 to 1958

Year	1953/1954	1954/1955	1955/1956	1956/1957	1957/1958
1. Domestic Supply	415,012,000	402,056,000	409,966,000	426,709,577	484,463,263
2. Blaina U.D.C.	150,473,000	179,474,000	174,016,000	180,300,000	174,440,000
3. Trade (Ebbw V.)	46,869,000	54,591,000	56,510,000	70,636,423	71,504,737
TOTALS	612,354,000	636,121,000	640,492,000	677,646,000	730,408,000

RAINFALL

Month			Inches	No. of Days
January	...	...	9.23	21
February	...	...	8.65	21
March	...	...	6.62	18
April	...	...	0.29	8
May	...	...	3.46	11
June	...	...	1.20	11
July	...	...	5.33	18
August	...	...	4.45	18
September	...	...	9.93	23
October	...	...	5.99	17
November	...	...	3.06	11
December	...	...	6.93	22

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Very few properties remain that are not connected to the sewer system and these properties are so far from the system that the conversion is impracticable.

The area is served by the Western Valley trunk sewer with a sea outfall at Newport, while surface water is collected in a separate sewer system draining to the river Ebbw.

The drainage system therefore is mainly satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were dealt with during the year.

Disease			Cases Notified	Number of disinfections carried out
Scarlet Fever	...	...	49	8
Tuberculosis	...	...	16	26
Poliomyelitis	...	...	4	4
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	2	2

With regard to the tuberculosis cases shown above, disinfections were carried out immediately after admission of patients to sanatoria, and after deaths. The premises vacated by families rehoused by the Local Authority because of tuberculosis, were also disinfected.

A. STOKES,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

CONCLUSION.

It must be appreciated that the work of the Department is, following recent legislation, continually increasing. I must, therefore, express satisfaction with the work carried out by the Department during the past twelve months.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking Members of the Council, fellow Officers, and members of the Health Department Staff for their generous co-operation.

THOMAS STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

